

\$500,000,000 ASKED TO INCREASE NAVY

League Starts Campaign to
Have Congress Sanction
Big Bond Issue.

EXTRA SESSION URGED

A resolution petitioning the President to call an extra session of Congress to authorize a bond issue of half a billion dollars, the sum needed to provide this country with adequate means of naval defense, was adopted yesterday by the Navy League of the United States through its executive committee. The Navy League is the oldest of the national defense organizations. It numbers among its directors and officers the Lyman Abbott, J. P. Morgan, Theodore Roosevelt, Cardinal Gibbons, Ellhu Root and many other influential men.

The resolution was adopted at a session at which members of the executive committee consulted by long distance telephone and telegraph and called into consultation many of the officers of the league who could not be present. The resolution is as follows:

"In view of the crisis in our foreign relations we, as representatives of the Navy League of the United States, express our emphatic belief that Congress should be assembled immediately and that measures should be taken at once to strengthen our national defenses. Our most pacific country should, because of its supreme love of peace, possess preponderant naval strength and adequate military strength. A large bond issue of, if necessary, \$500,000,000 should be authorized at once. These bonds would be rapidly absorbed by the American people for such a purpose. Equipped with a mighty fleet American life and American rights would be resolutely respected by all belligerents. In such case there would be no thought of our entering into war."

"Signed,

Gen. HORACE M. PORTER, President;

ROBERT M. THOMSON, Chairman Executive Committee;

CHARLES A. FOWLER, Secretary;

PURDY BELMONT, JOHN C. O'LAUGHLIN, FRANK J. SYMES."

Campaign Plans Outlined.

During the meeting at which the resolution was adopted Gen. Porter and Mr. Fowler were in the Union League Club in this city and the other members of the executive committee were in the Navy League offices in the Southern Building in Washington.

After the passage of the resolution quoted, plans were made for a campaign on the part of the league to awaken the public and public officials to the dangerous position in which the league claims this country is placed through lack of means of defense in case of foreign aggression. Plans were outlined to increase the membership of the league in all parts of the country, and to knit the members together in concerted action in behalf of a naval force so powerful that attack against the integrity and safety of America will be placed out of the question.

As a preliminary step it was decided to organize and conduct an aggressive campaign for 10,000 members in New York during the period of the visit of the fleet.

Mr. Ralph R. Strassburg, a former Annapolis graduate, who is at present connected with the Babcock & Wilcox Company and the United Cigar Stores Corporation, was appointed chairman of the New York membership campaign committee.

U. S. Could Be Second Sea Power.

"With the proposed half billion dollar appropriation," Mr. Strassburg said yesterday, "this country could in a short time place itself easily second in the list of naval powers."

"We could build a fleet of twenty-five dreadnoughts and battle cruisers and still have half of the appropriation to spend on scout cruisers, destroyers, submarines and aeroplanes and the necessary auxiliary ships without which dreadnoughts are useless."

"Twenty-five extra dreadnoughts added to our 1916 fighting strength would give us a first line sea-going fleet of thirty-seven dreadnoughts, more strength than Germany could muster and only a little weaker than the navy of England. The moral force of such a fleet would render out of the question unpleasant mishaps such as have happened to us at the hands of both groups of belligerents within the past few months, as it would make the American flag respected in the uttermost ends of the earth."

BART DUNN'S RETURN ORDERED IN JERSEY

Acting Governor Honors Requisition, Delays Removal Until Friday.

TRENTON, N. J., May 11.—Acting Governor Edge honored to-day a requisition of Gov. Whitman for the extradition of Bart Dunn, a New York politician convicted of conspiracy in connection with road grafts in Rockland county. Dunn is now in a sanitarium at Summit, N. J. The Acting Governor stated that Dunn should not be taken from the sanitarium until next Friday, as to give his counsel opportunity to present his immediate removal by habeas corpus or other proceedings.

The decision not to issue the warrant immediately was made after a hearing during which former Assemblyman Randolph Perkins said that to put Dunn in Rockland's Island penitentiary at this time would probably result in permanent mental derangement. It did not actually mean the sacrifice of Dunn's life, but it would mean the sacrifice of his liberty. Dunn is a "forwardly, faking politician, who has lost his nerve and does not want to see the sentence which has been justly imposed upon him."

Mr. Perkins assured the Acting Governor that Dunn would voluntarily return to New York as soon as his condition would permit. He repeated several times that some reason other than Dunn's crime was prompting the New York authorities to unwarranted activity in seeking the return of Dunn to the Appellate Court had disposed of the appeal to be argued on May 24. Finally Mr. Perkins spoke of the turn of events in Rockland county after the acquittal of City Clerk Cleary of Haverstraw when he was tried for murder.

King's Birthday Celebration Off.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun. LONDON, May 11.—The official Gazette announces that by royal command, celebrations of the King's birthday June 3, at home and abroad, with the exception of flying the flag, will be abandoned this year owing to the war.

ATLANTIC FLEET IN WAR TRIM AND READY FOR DUTY ON TWO HOURS NOTICE, SAYS ADMIRAL FLETCHER



PHOTO BY BROWNING

Commander Tells of Practice "Work"—Officers Don't Expect War With Germany—Sons of Revolution Hosts to Naval Visitors.

Grape Juice, the need of real fleets in the Atlantic and Pacific and the preparedness of the ships now in Hudson to weigh anchor and get away within two hours—these were some of the topics of yesterday in the festivities for the Atlantic fleet.

It was on board the United States ship Vigilant on the way down the Hudson River to the room breakfast at Fraunce's Tavern that Admiral Frank Fletcher said that "the fleet now in these waters can get under way within two hours and the ships are amply prepared for action."

At Fraunce's Tavern, where the board of managers of the Sons of the Revolution entertained the officers of the Atlantic fleet at breakfast, Admiral Fletcher's remarks were in a lighter vein, although there was one sentence that had a great deal of seriousness in it, when he said:

"The ships of the Atlantic fleet left this port last January for three months of exercises to prepare them for work."

Admiral Fletcher didn't go on to explain what might be meant by the word "work." He said he was more accustomed to giving orders aboard battleships than speaking from a guest table. "I don't know," he said, "if the fleet of the United States, U. S. A., said that he hoped this visit of the fleet would go to create a false impression as to what the American fleet is."

"It is very nice to feel that we are as good as any fleet that sails the waters," he told the navy officers, "but we have food for serious reflection when we find that the United States has 30,000 miles of seacoast to cover, and that the British have 27,000 miles and Germany only 800."

"We must have a real fleet for the Pacific and the Atlantic. The Panama Canal has drawn the two oceans together, but the Panama Canal is a vulnerable institution, because it is built by human hands. So let us not draw any false conclusions, but let us think carefully of what the future might bring, since our fleet is our first line of defense."

There was merriment at the breakfast when James M. Beck told of a dinner given to George Washington at which a couple hundred bottles of wine were opened. Mr. Beck estimated that 36 bottles of Madeira, the 25 bottles of port, the beer and the flowing punch, and then added:

"Let that be remembered in connection with grape juice."

Mr. Beck spoke of Washington's farewell to his officers, which was said in Fraunce's Tavern, and how Washington too faced a problem of a world which was in flames. Later Mr. Beck said:

"If George Washington could again revisit the glimmers of the moon and cross the threshold of this great edifice, and if he at this moment rose in our midst, clad in black velvet, with his sword at his side, his powdered wig covering his gray hairs, and the perpetual benediction of his benignant countenance shining upon us, I think he would share with us the pride and gratification that we all take in the navy of the United States and in the confident expectation that if the time should ever come when that navy would be obliged to vindicate the spirit of Washington by the aid of every member, from the Admiral on the bridge to the humblest stoker in the engine room, would unite in passing along as a flaming torch to the next generation the noble and heroic traditions of the American navy."

He concluded his address by saying that the navy would carry out any policy that the nation might desire in its deliberate wisdom, that the primary responsibility for that policy lies with the nation and that the spirit of Washington bids the people of the United States to "thine own self be true."

At 10 o'clock this afternoon when this breakfast party was over and the Admiral and Rear Admirals and other officers of the fleet got back to their ships with only a couple of hours to spare before they left again to attend the reception given in their honor last evening at the New York Yacht Club. Yesterday was a day when the officers began to come in for their share of entertainment for the blue-jackets got the start in port and had already put in nearly three whole days of making merry and being made merry.

Besides Admiral Fletcher, Rear Admirals McLean, Fisher, Coffman, Mayo and Bouché, and Daniel Appleton, Capt. Albert Gleaves and Gen. John P. O'Bryan, such non-military men of prominence were present in yesterday's gayeties as acting Mayor McAneny, Robert Olyphant, president of the Sons of the Revolution, and Dock Commissioner R. A. C. Smith.

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meeting of Admiral Fletcher and Gen. Huerta at the Hotel Ansonia, where the ex-dictator of Mexico is now living and where Admiral Fletcher's family is staying during the fleet's sojourn in this port.

Officers aboard the Wyoming, and the other warships, too, still remember vividly that Admiral Fletcher was in charge of the fleet that occupied Vera Cruz and had considerable to do with the evacuation of Huerta's forces at the Hotel Ansonia yesterday were also in the situation. They said that so far the Admiral and Gen. Huerta had not come to leave and could not be reached by day and evening. Elevator operators were instructed to be on the alert that the day when the officers began to come in for their share of entertainment for the blue-jackets got the start in port and had already put in nearly three whole days of making merry and being made merry.

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Instead of leaving 134th street at 11 in the afternoon, as was announced, Lieut. Yates, Stirling, commanding the fleet, got his charges up bright and early and they glided down the river at 7 in the morning. The pennant ship Prairie leading the way with the four K boats, for which she is the leader. Then came the Worden and the Mademoiselle, two destroyers which are attached to the fleet as tenders, and the Tonopah with the three D boats and two E's, and the Ozark with the G-2.

It was learned yesterday that the G-4 will leave Philadelphia on the 15th. The G-1 and the G-3 are in the navy yard, although the G-1 may be repaired in time to see over to the Hudson for the President's review on Monday.

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It was learned that the fleet will leave this port ready for the manœuvres, which will last until June 1.

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at Jersey City when the blue-jackets go to make their visit to Billy Sunday in Paterson. Less than a hundred of the enlisted men expressed a desire to hear the sermon of the Rev. Billy Sunday, who went from the Wyoming announcing the news of the Sunday party, but yesterday some Paterson residents visited the warships and mastered the meaning of the party of five hundred.

Today the Vestal, the San Francisco and the Neptune, of the auxiliary division, are due to sail for the war problem.

There are baseball games and theatre parties today for the enlisted men, and the only scheduled event for the officers of the fleet is the informal dance to be held aboard the Grante State to be given by the First Battalion Naval Militia, which will be held at the Hotel Ansonia to-night and about sixty of the officers of the fleet were guests at the New York Yacht Club last night.

It was an informal affair and a collection was taken for the evening. Among the members present were Commodore George F. Baker, Jr., Vice-Commodore J. P. Morgan, former Commodore Arthur Curtis, James Secretary George A. Cornick, W. Butler Duncan and Dudley Field Malone.

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AMERICAN PRESS ASSN

Above—at the Sons of the Revolution luncheon—Left to right, George T. Wilson, Admiral Fletcher, Robert Olyphant, president of the Sons of the Revolution; George McAneny, Acting Mayor; Rear Admiral Charles H. Smith. Below—A sailor on the flagship Wyoming operating the rangefinder on the main turret, which regulates the firing of its two 12-inch guns.

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POSTAL CO. CHARGES LEASED WIRE GRAB

Tells Interstate Board Bell Telephone Is Absorbing Mixed Service.

UNFAIR RATES ALLEGED

WASHINGTON, May 11.—Protest against private wire leases has been filed with the Interstate Commerce Commission by the Postal Telegraph Company and the Grain Receivers Association of Chicago, in the form of briefs which summarize testimony taken in the investigation into the wire companies. The Postal Telegraph and Telephone Company has filed a brief justifying the leases.

The case will be argued before the commission on May 22 and the commission in its decision may have something further to say with regard to its jurisdiction over wire companies. Recently the commission dismissed a general investigation into the wire companies, principally on the ground of its limited and uncertain authority over them.

The brief on behalf of the Postal Company is signed by William W. Cook, general counsel, and Frank R. Shattuck. It says that the American Telephone and Telegraph Company is rapidly absorbing the entire leased wire business of the country; that in the beginning the telephone companies had all of that business and the Bell Telephone Company had none. The Bell, controlled by the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, has now two-thirds of it and is taking away the remaining third from the two telephone companies. The Western Union, it is asserted, is controlled by the American Telephone and Telegraph Company.

The brief says in part:

"The Bell company should be prohibited from selling a by-product causing public discrimination in the telephone business, especially where the by-product is sold at a low figure, increasing the earning capacity of the two telephone companies in their regular business."

"The root of the evil is the mingling of the telephone and the leased wire business. It is irregular, discriminatory and amounts to a free telephone service and should be abolished."

In connection with the latter point the brief says:

"The evidence is clear that the Bell

company leases a telephone circuit at the same price charged by the two telephone companies and, in addition, the Bell company gives a mixed lot of telephone service, either in the alternative, with telephone service or by open telephone service after 3 o'clock in the afternoon after the public markets close, or before 1 o'clock in the morning, and this free telephone service is useful and valuable to the lessee of a telephone circuit.

"These two services are so intermingled in this manner as to render it impossible to measure the value of each, or in fact the use of each. It is a mingling of telephone and telephone rates and service which nullifies any uniformity of rate and a discriminatory rate, as compared with the public rate."

"In fact, it renders it impossible even for the commission to determine how much is charged for the telephone part and how much for the telephone part."

"It is an ingenious way of furnishing both telephone and telephone service at a reduced rate and a discriminatory rate. As explained above, it enables the Bell company to absorb gradually the entire leased wire business. It is an institution which cannot be met by the telephone companies and, hence, gives the Bell company a monopoly in furnishing that kind of mixed service."

"It is mysterious as to why, in its workings, attractive to the last degree to brokers, enormous in its money returns to the telephone, destructive to the business of the telephone companies, unfair and discriminatory toward the general public which pays full telephone rates, and is an abomination which cannot be justified by law or logic and should be abolished peremptorily."

The American Telephone and Telegraph Company in its brief asks the commission to dismiss the proceeding on the ground that the complaint in the case comes from members of the Grain Receivers Association, not one of whom is a subscriber to the service complained against.

FOX TROT WINS FAIR WARRIORS

Recess and Dances Keep Military Women From Drill.

The commander of the New York branch of the International Order of Military Women waited patiently for the members to appear at their weekly drill last night at the Fourteenth Regiment Armory in Brooklyn. The floor was in readiness, military music was playing and uniformed regulars were running up and down the stairs when the first telephone message came to the commander from a Military Woman.

"My little brother is sick," it said, "so really I am afraid I can't come to-night. I won't make any difference, will I, Mrs. Milbank?"

Mrs. Major Milbank replied that of course it wouldn't for she believed even a military woman's first duty was to her home. It was a little discouraging, though, when another soldierette called up that a friend wanted her to go motor-ing and really she couldn't resist. So was such a lovely night. High school exams claimed two other recruits and Mrs. Milbank waited patiently for the others to put in appearance. They did, and finally, nattily attired in regulation khaki suits and ready for business, but when they heard so many of their comrades had fallen by the wayside, there was some hesitation. It didn't last long for several real soldiers from down stairs appeared and insisted that the military women should come down and fox trot with them. The last seen of the Columbian, New York branch of the International Order of Military Women, they were gliding lightly over the floor of the Fourteenth Regiment Armory, with young officers to the strains of "Chin Chin" as played by a military band.

"I can't really blame them," said Mrs. J. Hungerford Milbank, their commander, "for I always believe that even military girls should let domestic duties come first."

THE BUS marked

"Riverside Drive" carries you along the whole length of the fleet at anchor in the Hudson. Four solid miles of warships—our warships—seen best with plenty of time to see everything from a

Fifth Avenue Bus

Go in the morning and choose your favorite seat.

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